

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A graphical user interface (GUI) for assisting a healthcare practitioner in diagnosing and treating patients by interacting with an end-user the healthcare practitioner during progression through a stored clinical best practice workflow processcomprised of a plurality of interlinked steps, the GUI comprising:

a page including a map for assisting the healthcare practitioner to navigate the stored clinical best practice workflow, the map comprising a plurality of interlinked nodes, wherein each node has a unique relationship with a step in the stored best practice workflow, which graphically represent the plurality of interlinked nodes graphically represent a plurality of possible patient care pathways across the map, and each patient care pathway comprises two or more of the plurality of interlinked nodes; the structure of a plurality of interlinked steps of a stored workflow process;

data entry means for entering clinical data relating to a particular selected node[,] the data entry means comprising display means for displaying, within a portion of the page, a predetermined data entry request and a response made by the healthcare practitioner to the request; wherein the node has a unique relationship with a step in the workflow process currently being traversed by the end-user;

data recording means for storing the response, made by the healthcare practitioner to the request, in a data record;

pathway means for determining a particular pathway through the currently traversed workflow process using the entered data, the pathway comprising two or more of the plurality of interlinked nodes arranged to use the response of the healthcare practitioner stored in the data record to suggest a next step within the stored best practice workflow, thereby assisting the healthcare practitioner to determine a particular patient care pathway across the map; and

graphical means for graphically representing the resultant in the page in the page a patient care pathway through the workflow process across the map selected by the healthcare practitioner.

2. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 1, wherein the plurality of interlinked nodes represent a complete stored clinical best practice workflow process on a single page.
3. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein each node represents an action, decision or result within the stored clinical best practice workflow process.
4. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 1, wherein the data entry means comprises presentation means for presenting data relevant to a location of the selected node within the plurality of interlinked nodes and selection means for enabling end-user the healthcare practitioner to selection of at least some of that data.
5. (Original) A GUI according to Claim 4, wherein the presentation means comprises a plurality of drop-down lists of location-specific information.
6. (Original) A GUI according to Claim 1, wherein the data entry means is arranged to use the entered data at a first node to determine further information required at a second node, linked to the first node.
7. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 1, further comprising updating means for updating any information related to the step in the stored clinical best practice workflow process with entered data.
8. (Original) A GUI according to Claim 1, further comprising means for converting the entered data into a classification code representing that data.

9. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 8, wherein the classification code comprises a standard classification code describing a complete range of possible data inputs relevant to the subject of the stored clinical best practice workflow process.
10. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 8, wherein the subject of the workflow process is clinical medical information and the classification code represents one of the group comprising a diagnosis, a symptom, an action, a treatment and an operative procedure.
11. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 1, further comprising analysing means for analysing the entered data and generating a list of actions associated therewith and listing means for listing the list of associated actions to the end-user healthcare practitioner adjacent the plurality of displayed interlinked nodes.
12. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 12, further comprising an information means provided at a node for presenting information associated with a node upon end-user selection wherein at least some of the nodes include information means providing a graphical indication that concealed clinical information relating to the step in the stored best practice workflow associated with that node is available for presentation on the page, the information means being arranged to reveal the concealed clinical information on selective interaction with the node by the healthcare practitioner.
13. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 12, wherein the graphical indication is a graphical icon the information means comprises a graphical icon and end-user selection comprises interaction between an end-user navigational tool and the icon.
14. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 12, wherein the information means is arranged to provide a plurality of different levels of detail of information, in accordance with an end-user a selection made by the healthcare practitioner selection.

15. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 1, further comprising action list means for generating a list of actions and presenting the same to the ~~end-user~~ healthcare practitioner adjacent the plurality of displayed interlinked nodes, the action list means being arranged to determine the list from analysis of the ~~end-user~~ healthcare practitioner's navigation through the plurality of interlinked nodes.

16. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 15, wherein the action list means is arranged, at the end of traversal of a plurality of interlinked nodes comprising the page, to present the list to the ~~end-user~~ healthcare practitioner with options for ~~end-user~~ the healthcare practitioner to confirmation of each action, and to determine the list of actions to be implemented from the end-user confirmation healthcare practitioner's confirmation.

17. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 1, further comprising a note recordal means for recording ~~end-user generated~~ textual notes generated by the healthcare practitioner relating to a particular node, the note recordal means being arranged to link the note with the particular node such that the stored note is retrievable when the healthcare practitioner ~~end-user~~ has navigated to that particular node.

18. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 17, wherein the note recordal means is arranged to record ~~an end-user determined~~ a variation of the stored clinical best practice workflow ~~process~~ at a particular node as determined by the healthcare practitioner.

19. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 17, further comprising feedback generation means for converting ~~an end-user determined~~ a note determined by the healthcare practitioner into a transmittable message and for transmitting the message to another healthcare practitioner ~~end-user~~ having access to a version of the GUI.

20. (Original) A GUI according to Claim 1, further comprising a new page linking means for linking a node at the end of a branch of the plurality of interlinked nodes within one page to a node within another different page.

21. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 20, wherein the new page linking means comprises a graphical icon and end-user selection by the healthcare practitioner comprises interaction between an end-user navigational tool and the icon.
22. (Original) A GUI according to Claim 1, wherein the GUI has access to an Electronic Patient Record Management System and the GUI further comprises an EPRMS management means for obtaining and presenting details of a selected electronic patent record in a portion of the page.
23. (Original) A GUI according to Claim 22, wherein the EPRMS management means further comprises population means for populating one or more nodes with at least some of the details of a selected electronic patent record, thereby reducing any required data entry at that node.
24. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 22, wherein the EPRMS management means is arranged to use the details of the selected electronic patient record to determine what information is required at a node from the end-user healthcare practitioner.
25. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 1, further comprising referral means for generating a referral message, the referral means being provided at a node and using information associated with the node to populate at least some of the referral message on end-user selection by the healthcare practitioner.
26. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 25, wherein the referral means comprises a graphical icon and end-user selection by the healthcare practitioner comprises interaction between an end-user navigational tool and the icon.
27. (Original) A GUI according to Claim 25, wherein the referral means is arranged to use information obtained from an electronic patient record to populate automatically at least some of the referral message.

28. (Original) A GUI according to Claim 1, further comprising searching means for searching an externally accessible knowledge base, the searching means being arranged to convert a selected information topic into a predetermined classification code representing that topic and to transmit that classification code within an information request to the knowledge base for relevant information contained therein.
29. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 28, wherein the classification code comprises a standard classification code describing a complete range of possible data inputs relevant to the subject of the ~~workflow process~~ stored best practice workflow.
30. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 28, wherein the ~~subject of the workflow process is clinical medical information and the~~ classification code represents one of the group comprising a diagnosis, a symptom, an action, a treatment and an operative procedure.
31. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 28, wherein the searching means is arranged to receive a response to the information request and display the results of the search to the ~~end-user~~ healthcare practitioner.
32. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 28, wherein the searching means is arranged to receive a response to the information request and use the response to determine a relevant page of a plurality of pages for display to the ~~end-user~~ healthcare practitioner.
33. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 28, wherein the searching means is arranged to display a plurality of information topics to the ~~end-user~~ healthcare practitioner and to enable selection of at least some of these information topics, each information topic being related to the current node location of the ~~end-user~~ healthcare practitioner within the current page.

34. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 33, wherein the searching means is arranged to enable the ~~end-user~~ healthcare practitioner to enter additional information topics not displayed by the searching means.
35. (Original) A GUI according to Claim 1, further comprising editing means for editing the plurality of interconnected nodes on a page, the editing means being arranged to update the stored workflow to reflect any change made to the page.
36. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 35, wherein the editing means is arranged to enable ~~an~~ ~~end-user~~ the healthcare practitioner to add a new node and to specify the contents of the new node.
37. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 35, wherein the editing means is arranged to enable ~~an~~ ~~end-user~~ the healthcare practitioner to specify functionality associated with a node.
38. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 35, wherein the editing means is arranged to enable the healthcare practitioner ~~an~~ ~~end-user~~ to add or edit a classification code associated with the contents of a node.
39. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 35, wherein the editing means is arranged to enable the healthcare practitioner to ~~end-user~~ controlled the positioning of the new node within the page and interconnection of the new node to the existing plurality of interconnected nodes.
40. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 1, further comprising recording means for recording ~~end-user~~ the healthcare practitioner's navigation through the plurality of interlinked nodes.
41. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 40, further comprising navigation analysis means for analysing the healthcare practitioner's ~~end-user~~ navigation to determine the precise pathway taken through the stored clinical best practice workflow ~~process~~.

42. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 41, wherein information relating to each step in the process is cost quantifiable and the navigation analysis means is arranged to determine a total cost of the pathway taken through the ~~workflow process~~ stored best practice workflow.

43. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 41, wherein the navigation analysis means is arranged to analyse the performance of the healthcare practitioner end-user through the ~~workflow process~~ stored best practice workflow.

44. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface (GUI) for interacting with a user during progression through a workflow process, the GUI comprising:

- a map comprising a plurality of interlinked nodes which graphically represent the structure of a plurality of interlinked steps of a stored workflow process;
- a data entry module for entering data relating to a particular selected node; wherein the node has a unique relationship with a step in the workflow process;
- a pathway module for determining a particular pathway through the workflow process using the entered data, the pathway comprising two or more of the plurality of interlinked nodes; and
- a display module for graphically representing the resultant pathway through the workflow process in the map.

45. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 1, wherein the GUI provides a user interface to a knowledge base storing the clinical best practice workflow. A graphical user interface (GUI) for interacting with an end-user during progression through a workflow process, the GUI providing a user interface to a knowledge base storing a workflow process, and the GUI comprising:

- a page including a plurality of interlinked nodes which graphically represent the structure of a plurality of interlinked steps of the stored workflow process;

— means for entering data relating to a particular selected node; wherein the node has a unique relationship with a step in the stored workflow process currently being traversed by the end-user;

means for determining a particular pathway through the currently traversed workflow process using the entered data, the pathway comprising two or more of the plurality of interlinked nodes; and

means for graphically representing the resultant pathway through the workflow process in the page.

46. (Currently amended) A graphical user interface (GUI) for assisting a healthcare practitioner in diagnosing and treating patients by interacting with an end-userthe healthcare practitioner during progression through a plurality of stored clinical best practice workflows, each workflow process comprised of a plurality of interlinked steps, the GUI comprising:

a plurality of pages representing a plurality of interrelated stored clinical best practice workflows, each page comprising including a map for assisting the healthcare practitioner to navigate a respective stored clinical best practice workflow, the map comprising a plurality of interlinked nodes, wherein each node has a unique relationship with a step in the respective stored best practice workflow, the plurality of interlinked nodes graphically represent a plurality of possible patient care pathways across the respective maps, and each patient care pathway comprises two or more of the plurality of interlinked nodes; which graphically represent the structure of a plurality of interlinked steps within a stored workflow process;

data entry means for entering clinical data relating to a particular selected node, the data entry means comprising display means for displaying, within a portion of the page, a predetermined data entry request and a response made by the healthcare practitioner to the request; wherein the node has a unique relationship with a step in the workflow process currently being traversed by the end-user;

determining pathway means for arranged to use the response of the healthcare practitioner stored in the data record to suggest a next step within the stored best practice workflow, thereby assisting the healthcare practitioner to determine a particular patient care pathway across the corresponding map; and determining a particular pathway through the currently traversed

~~workflow process using the entered data, the pathway comprising two or more of the plurality of interlinked nodes; and~~

~~graphical means for graphically representing in the page the resultant pathway through the workflow process in the page a patient care pathway across the corresponding map selected by the healthcare practitioner.~~

47. (Currently amended) A method of assisting a ~~healthcare practitioner in diagnosing and treating patients using a graphical user interface (GUI) for interacting with an end-user the healthcare practitioner during progression through a stored clinical best practice workflow comprised of a plurality of interlinked steps process using a graphical user interface (GUI)~~, the method comprising:

~~generating a page of the GUI, the page including a map for assisting the healthcare practitioner to navigate the stored clinical best practice workflow, the map comprising a plurality of interlinked nodes, wherein each node has a unique relationship with a step in the stored best practice workflow, the plurality of interlinked nodes which graphically represent the structure of a plurality of interlinked steps of the workflow process possible patient care pathways across the map, and each patient care pathway comprises two or more of the plurality of interlinked nodes;~~
~~displaying, within a portion of the page, a predetermined data entry request relating to a particular selected node;~~

~~entering clinical data in response to the data entry request; relating to a particular selected node; the node having a unique relationship with a step in the workflow process currently being traversed by the end-user;~~

~~storing the clinical data entered in response to the data entry request in a data record; determining a particular pathway through the currently traversed workflow process using the entered data, the pathway comprising two or more of the plurality of interlinked nodes~~

~~using the response of the healthcare practitioner stored in the data record to suggest a next step within the stored best practice workflow; and~~

~~graphically representing in the page the resultant patient care pathway through the workflow process in the page across the map selected by the healthcare practitioner.~~

Claims 48-57 (Previously withdrawn)

58. (Amended) A graphical user interface (GUI) for assisting a healthcare practitioner in diagnosing and treating patients by interacting with an end-user the healthcare practitioner during progression through a stored clinical best practice workflow process comprised of a plurality of interlinked steps, the GUI comprising:

a page including a map for assisting the healthcare practitioner to navigate the stored clinical best practice workflow, the map comprising a plurality of interlinked nodes, wherein each node has a unique relationship with a step in the stored best practice workflow currently being traversed by the healthcare practitioner, the plurality of interlinked nodes graphically represent a plurality of possible patient care pathways across the map which may be selected by the healthcare practitioner, and each patient care pathway comprises two or more of the plurality of interlinked nodes a page including a plurality of interlinked nodes which graphically represent the structure of a plurality of interlinked steps of a stored workflow process currently being traversed by the end-user;

editing means for enabling the end-userhealthcare practitioner to edit at least some of the plurality of interlinked nodes; and

updating means for updating the plurality of interlinked steps of the stored clinical best practice workflow process-with any corresponding changes made to the plurality of interlinked nodes by the healthcare practitioner.[.]

59. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 58, wherein the editing means is arranged to enable the end-userhealthcare practitioner to add a new node and to specify the contents of the new node.

60. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 58, wherein the editing means is arranged to enable the healthcare practitioner end-user to specify functionality associated with a node.

61. (Currently amended) A GUI according to any of Claims 58 to 60, wherein the editing means is arranged to enable the healthcare practitioner end-user to add or edit a classification code associated with the contents of a node.

62. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 58, wherein the editing means is arranged to enable the healthcare practitioner to control the end-user controlled positioning of the new node within the page and interconnection of the new node to the existing plurality of interconnected nodes.

63. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 58, wherein the subject of the workflow process is clinical medical information and the editing means is arranged to facilitate editing of clinical information associated with a node.

64. (Currently amended) A GUI according to Claim 58, wherein the editing means is arranged to facilitate editing of administration information associated with a node.

Claims 65-81 (Previously withdrawn)

82. (Currently amended) A method of constructing a graphical user interface for assisting a healthcare professional in diagnosing and treating patients, the method comprising:
collating content regarding a particular clinical best practice workflow;[,]
recording that content in a database as a series of steps of a hierarchically structured clinical best practice workflow;[,] and
automatically generating a graphical representation of the hierarchical clinical best practice workflow structure—from the content recorded in the database, which can be used to guide an end-user healthcare practitioner progressively through the clinical best practice workflow; the graphical representation comprising a page including a map for assisting the healthcare practitioner to navigate the stored clinical best practice workflow, the map comprising a plurality of interlinked nodes, wherein each node corresponds to a specific point within the has a unique relationship with a step in the hierarchical clinical best practice workflow

structure, the plurality of interlinked nodes graphically represent a plurality of possible patient care pathways across the map selectable by the healthcare practitioner, and each patient care pathway comprises two or more of the plurality of interlinked nodes.[.]

83. (Original) A method according to Claim 82, wherein the generating step comprises generating a graphical representation comprising the plurality of interlinked nodes on a single page.

84. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 82, wherein the recording step comprises creating a clinical best practice workflow which commences with a fact in relation to one of a plurality of causes of the fact and the clinical best practice workflow steps provide a methodology to determine which of the plurality of causes is responsible for generating this fact.

85. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 84, wherein the workflow is a clinical diagnosis workflow, and the fact comprises a symptom and the cause of the fact comprises a medical condition.

86. (Original) A GUI according to Claim 58, wherein the editing means is arranged such that its use by the healthcare practitioner is restricted by permissions.

87. (New) A GUI according to Claim 12, wherein said clinical information is revealed on the page by selection of the node itself within the GUI by the healthcare practitioner

88. (New) A GUI according to Claim 13, wherein selective interaction with the node by the healthcare practitioner comprises interaction between an end-user navigational tool and the icon.

89. (New) A GUI according to Claim 1, wherein the graphical means is arranged to graphically indicate previously executed steps in the best practice workflow to the healthcare practitioner.

90. (New) A method according to Claim 47, wherein previously executed steps in the best practice workflow are graphically indicated to the healthcare practitioner.

91. (New) A method according to Claim 47, further comprising interacting with a node displaying a graphical indication that concealed clinical information relating to the step in the stored best practice workflow associated with that node is available, thereby revealing the concealed clinical information in use.

92. (New) A graphical user interface (GUI) for assisting a healthcare practitioner in diagnosing and treating patients by interacting with the healthcare practitioner during progression through a stored clinical best practice workflow comprised of a plurality of interlinked steps, the GUI comprising;

a page including a map for assisting the healthcare practitioner to navigate the stored clinical best practice workflow, the map comprising a plurality of interlinked nodes, wherein each node has a unique relationship with a step in the stored best practice workflow, the plurality of interlinked nodes graphically represent a plurality of possible patient care pathways across the map, and each patient care pathway comprises two or more of the plurality of interlinked nodes;

data entry means for entering clinical data relating to a particular selected node, the data entry means comprising display means for displaying, within a portion of the page, a predetermined data entry request and a response made by the healthcare practitioner to the request;

data recording means for storing the response, made by the healthcare practitioner to the request, in a data record;

pathway means arranged to enable the healthcare practitioner to select a next step within the stored best practice workflow, thereby assisting the healthcare practitioner to determine a particular patient care pathway across the map; and

graphical means for graphically representing in the page a patient care pathway across the map selected by the healthcare practitioner.